



Recycling Lines

Electronic Newsletter

October 2007

Virginia Department of Environmental Quality, Division of Environmental Enhancement

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DEQ's Community Involvement Initiative: The Department of Environmental Quality is dedicated to helping the public better understand DEQ's role in protecting the environment, and to involving the public more effectively in environmental decision making.

Welcome to Recycling Lines, We hope that some of this information is helpful to you in your programs, and hope you'll help us with news from your area related recycling. Let us know by sending this information to Steve Coe at

gscoe@deq.virginia.gov.

The Coca-Cola/NRC Recycling Bin Grant Program

The Coca-Cola Company and the National Recycling Coalition have joined together to provide grants to local community recycling programs for use at public events. The grant applicant needs to demonstrate how their proposal will lead to sustainable recycling opportunities. Local governments, civic, school, non-profit and for-profit groups are all eligible. The application is available only on-line by going to www.bingrant.org

The **deadline for the first application cycle is Friday, October 26, 2007.** The awards will be announced on America Recycles Day (November 15, 2007).

Magic Pots & Recycled Bottles

Rockingham County Department of Public Works invited Kathleen Jacobs & Puppets to teach the school audience about reuse and recycling. Ms. Jacobs makes all of her puppets from recycled materials. There's "All" the goat, and "Tide" the cow (the bodies are made from those detergent bottles). She even has help from a fairy named Minute Maid to teach kids about recycling.

I have heard from some of the litter and recycling managers in Virginia that they have trouble getting into schools, so I asked Linda Zirkle, the Recycling Program Manager for Rockingham County, what her secret was. She said that she started by going into the schools herself and doing programs during the children's library time. After the school administrators got to know her, she has been able to work with them to bring in programs like Kathleen Jacobs & Puppets into the schools. It also helps to plan recycling presentations so that they meet Virginia's Standards of Learning criteria. Ms. Jacobs is mindful of that too, and she bases the tales that she tells with her recycled puppets on storybooks which she brings to display in the corner of the stage during her show. She also has lesson plans available for teachers.

For more information about Kathleen Jacobs & Puppets, call (410) 838-6848 or go to www.kathleenjacobspuppets.com

To speak with Linda Zirkle, call (540) 564-3008 or email her at lzirkle@rockinghamcountyva.gov

America Recycles Day Website

Check out the new America Recycles Day website by going to www.americarecyclesday.org. This website has basic information about the do's and don'ts of recycling. Find out where to go for more recycling information for each state.

Did You Know?

- ✓ The EPA is hosting a Recycling and Solid Waste Management Educational Series to provide training and networking opportunities to state and local governments, and non-governmental organizations interested in decreasing waste, increasing reuse, recycling and pollution prevention and conserving energy and materials. The webcasts are held the 3rd Thursday of each month through September 2008 from 1:00 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. For more information, go to <http://www.epa.gov/region1/RCCedu/>
- ✓ The Virginia Recycling Association (VRA) will hold their next annual meeting of the members on November 9, 2007 from 10 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. in Charlottesville at the Doubletree Hotel. To get more information and to register, go to: <http://www.vrarecycles.org/>
- ✓ America Recycles Day is November 15, 2007. Contact Erica Trout of the Virginia Recycling Association to find out what is happening in Virginia at (804) 302-4231 or ericatrout@msn.com or visit the VRA website at: <http://www.vrarecycles.org/>
- ✓ The Recycling Markets Development Council will hold their next meeting on December 6, 2007 from 10 a.m. – 1 p.m. at the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality Piedmont Office located at 4949-A Cox Road, Glen Allen. For more information contact Steve Coe at 804-698-4029 or gscoe@deq.virginia.gov
- ✓ Dell Inc. is targeting small businesses with a new computer equipment recycling service. If a business has fewer than 10 pieces of unwanted electronic equipment, it can be sent to Dell to be properly recycled. Go to www.del.com/smbrecycle

Virginia Beach Green Businesses

The Virginia Beach Convention Center is the first of its kind in Virginia. It joined the Virginia Green Program on August 29, 2007. It has pledged to use environmentally friendly practices and products.

Also in Virginia Beach, Croc's 19th Street Bistro became the first restaurant in Virginia to be certified by Virginia Green. The restaurant is water and lighting efficient, and uses carpets, flooring and furniture made from sustainable materials.

For more information about Virginia Green, go to: <http://viriniagreen.org/index.htm>

Recycling Lines Continued

President's Environmental Youth Awards (PEYA)

The Environmental Protection Agency sponsors the President's Environmental Youth Awards. Young people from K-12 can be nominated for recognition for their projects and activities which demonstrate their commitment to the environment. This includes what students have done to implement recycling programs in their schools and communities.

The deadline for submissions to be considered for a PEYA is October 31. To learn more about this award, go to:

<http://www.epa.gov/enviroed/peya/index.html>

The contact for people applying in Virginia is Larry Brown at (215) 814-5527 or brown.larry@epa.gov

Cardboard as a Commodity

Augusta County and the Cities of Staunton and Waynesboro use the Sonoco plant in Madison Heights to recycle collected cardboard from the vicinity. The current market price for cardboard is approximately \$67.50 for a ton of loose cardboard. If the cardboard is baled and ready for processing, it can fetch about \$125 per ton.

Augusta County collected more than 400,000 pounds of cardboard from residential waste at their 10 recycling stations. That equates to about 200 tons worth \$13,500 in just seven months. The money that the county receives from selling its cardboard is used to offset the costs of other recycling programs that are not as cost-efficient.

The City of Waynesboro reports that the collection of cardboard has increased from about 3 – 4,000 pounds per month to approximately 10,000 pounds per month. Lesa Osteen, the Assistant Superintendent of Environment and Safety with the City of Waynesboro believes that more citizens are recycling cardboard because they have learned that cardboard can be recycled and the drop off centers are willing to accept it.

For more information about this successful cardboard collection program, contact Lesa Osteen at (540) 942-6723 or osteenlh@ci.waynesboro.va.us

University Outreach E-Waste Collections

Virginia Tech, Old Dominion University, the University of Richmond and Hollins University partnered together the weekend of October 13 – 14 to sponsor e-waste collection drives for residents. Each collection site at the universities collected the e-waste at no charge to the residents.

Hollins University reported that by 11 a.m. on Saturday morning, 371 cars had come to participate in the Community Day for Household Equipment. The goal of the event was to collect 200 tons of e-waste. Workers at the Hollins site filled eight tractor-trailer loads from the Roanoke Valley businesses earlier in the week. The Saturday collection at Hollins University expected to yield another four tractor trailer loads of e-cycled waste.

All of the collected e-waste will be taken to Metech's plant in Worcester, Massachusetts for the disassembly and recycling process. The cost of the e-waste recycling project was underwritten by a corporate sponsor that wished to remain anonymous.

For more information about this e-cycling project, contact Andrew McManus with Metech International at (888) 638-2761 or email Metech International by visiting their website at: <http://www.metechgroup.com/index.html>

Waste Reduction Awards

A Keep Virginia Beautiful awards luncheon was held on Wednesday, October 10, 2007 to honor individuals, organizations, and local governments for their litter and recycling programs.

Frederick County took first place for the Community Shred which was held as part of their spring clean up. **Fauquier County** Environmental Services won second place for their waste reduction program.

The awards were presented by the Secretary of Natural Resources, the Honorable Preston Bryant.

For more information, contact Robert L. Hundley, Executive Director, Keep Virginia Beautiful at (804) 355-0085.

Virginia Living Museum Receives Grant for Green Center

The Virginia Living Museum received a \$150,000 matching grant from the National Park Service to build an environmental education center that will focus on green building design, products and construction methods. The purpose of this project is to demonstrate to visitors how choices that we make impact the environment.

The center is scheduled to open in the spring of 2009. The building will have a green roof, rain barrels and solar collectors. Future exhibits will focus on the promotion of recycling, green building, water conservation and other related topics of interest.

For more information about the "Living Green in the Watershed" project, go to: <http://www.thevlm.org/aboutus/press/Green-Initiative.php>
Or contact Fred Farris, Deputy Director, (757) 595-1900 ext. 212 or deputy.director@thevlm.org

Recycling Awareness is up at the University of Virginia

The **University of Virginia** collected twenty-three tons of cardboard during the two-week move in period on campus. Most of the cardboard came from boxes that students used to carry in their belongings, or from items that they purchased once they arrived.

UVA recycling employees also reported that they collected about 40 cubic yards of bottles and cans. Bruce C. "Sonny" Beale said that there seemed to be a reduction in the difficult-to-recycle polystyrene plastics that were collected last year.

Students at UVA seem to be excited about recycling and that enthusiasm seems to be growing. More students have volunteered for the Conservation Advocates, a student group that educates other students about recycling in the residence halls. Last year, 23 students registered for this program and this year 40 students registered to volunteer with the program.

For more information about the recycling program at UVA, visit the UVA recycling website at: <http://recycle.virginia.edu/>
Or contact Sony Beale at (434) 982-5438 or bc8s@virginia.edu

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